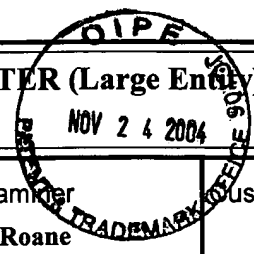


IFW



|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b> |  | Docket No.<br><b>14834Z (ETH-1540-CONT)</b> |
| Applicant(s): <b>Christopher J. Hess, et al.</b>   |  |   |

|                                      |                                    |                             |                              |                               |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Application No.<br><b>10/612,363</b> | Filing Date<br><b>July 2, 2003</b> | Examiner<br><b>A. Roane</b> | Customer No.<br><b>23389</b> | Group Art Unit<br><b>3739</b> | Confirmation No.<br><b>5400</b> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|

Invention: **VESSEL HARVESTING RETRACTOR WITH ELECTROSURGICAL PLUNGER**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.  
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

| CLAIMS AS AMENDED  |                                     |                             |                                |   |         |                   |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------|-------------------|
|  | CLAIMS REMAINING<br>AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST #<br>PREV. PAID FOR | NUMBER EXTRA<br>CLAIMS PRESENT |   | RATE    | ADDITIONAL<br>FEE |
| TOTAL CLAIMS   | 4 -                                 | 20 =                        | 0                              | x | \$18.00 | \$0.00            |
| INDEP. CLAIMS  | 2 -                                 | 3 =                         | 0                              | x | \$88.00 | \$0.00            |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> |                                     |                             |                                |   |         | \$0.00            |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT                                  |                                     |                             |                                |   |         | \$0.00            |

- ☒ No additional fee is required for amendment.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **19-1013/SSMP**
  - ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
  - ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

Signature

Dated: November 22, 2004

**Dermott J. Cooke**  
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|  |  |
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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on |  |
| November 22, 2004  |  |
| (Date)   |  |
| <br>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence   |  |
| Dermott J. Cooke   |  |
| Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence   |  |

cc:



**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Christopher J. Hess, et al.

**Examiner:** A. Roane

**Serial No:** 10/612,363

**Art Unit:** 3739

**Filed:** July 2, 2003

**Docket:** 14834Z (ETH-1540-CONT)

**For:** VESSEL HARVESTING RETRACTOR  
WITH ELECTROSURGICAL  
PLUNGER

**Dated:** November 22, 2004

**Conf. No.:** 5400

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

Sir:

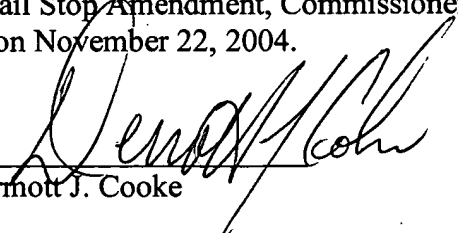
This Amendment is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed September 3, 2004.  
Entry and consideration of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 22, 2004.

Dated: November 22, 2004

  
Dermott J. Cooke